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FLOOR DEBATE

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verify delivery. The committee amendment is different from the bill in that it puts a minimum age of 14 instead of 12. The original bill would have allowed 12- and 13-year-olds to detassel for an employer, but attempted to do it in a roundabout fashion that was confusing. So the committee amendment makes it more clear who is covered and what kind of employment conditions that are...you are allowed. I do not believe that the original bill would have accomplished what the proponents...what the Department of Labor wanted to because of the confusing way it was drafted. The original bill would have deleted a requirement that the Department of Labor conduct workplace inspections for permit renewals sought for...by employers who employ children under 16 after 10 p.m. The committee felt that this kind of inspection should continue for the safety and welfare of children, and the burden on the department was not significant enough to remove this. So the committee amendment would reinstate the Department of Labor's duty to do those type of permit inspections. The original bill also contained a section on the State Boiler Inspection Act. The committee believed that those were substantive sections of the bill and they didn't really fit with the rest of the bill. Because they were substantive, then we...we decided not to address them in this bill. Those sections of the boiler inspection procedures are not urgent and we believe that they can be addressed next session. This is the entirety of the committee amendment and what it would do. It differs from the green copy of the bill, as I said earlier, and it replaces the bill. I know there is concerns about the age level of employment and there will be amendments to the committee amendments to change those. I will support the amendments with the provision of an amendment that follows from my point of view, that would put some more restrictions on the employment. So with that, I move the committee amendments.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Thank you, Senator Connealy. Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: Mr. President, the first amendment I have to the bill, by Senator Stuhr. Senator, I had a note you wanted to pull the amendment at this time and refile it. Is that correct?

SENATOR STUHR: Yes.